

# Years 11-12 Senior Biology

## Mandatory Practicals & IA2 Student Assessment

### Unit 3: Biodiversity and the interconnectedness of life



Year 11-12 Ecologists will visit Nudgee Beach EEC twice over a period of time to complete both their Mandatory Practicals and Student Experiment. Terms 1 and 4 are best suited for maximum data collection.



During their Mandatory Practicals they will **participate in a range of experiments and investigations** to familiarise themselves with the marine ecosystem. **Students develop skills in sampling ecological systems, organising and analysing data and developing ecological models to describe and explain the diversity and interconnectedness of life on Earth.** Collaborative experimental work also helps students to develop **communication, interaction, character and management skills.**



In between NBEEC visits, students will reflect on their experience and choose one area to focus their individualised research question for their student experiment. On their second visit, students will work in groups to collect data.



Over the two days, **students investigate the interactions within and between species, and the interactions between abiotic and biotic components of ecosystems.** They also investigate how measurements of abiotic factors, population numbers, species diversity and descriptions of interactions between species can form the basis for spatial and temporal comparisons between ecosystems.



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